

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 02475 202216Z

11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 NRC-07 AEC-07 /102 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6797

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, MX

SUBJECT: US/MEXICO DUAL PURPOSE PROJECT

REF: STATE 210239

1. SINCE FOREIGN MINISTRY REP (CABRERA) ON JOINT US/MEXICO WORKING GROUP (WG) ON REFENCE PROJECT HAS BEEN PROCISELY THE PERSON WHO HAS STALEMATED ACTION FOR TWO YEARS DESPITE WILLINGNESS TECHNICAL LEVEL PEOPLE TO PROCEED, EMBASSY HAS PREFERRED TO KEEP MATTER IN CHANNELS AND WORK THROUGH GOM CO-CHAIRMAN OF WORKING GROUP (WG), ING. LUIS GALVEZ CRUZ, WHO IS COUNTERPART TO DR. COPE U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN, AND LET HIM APPLY PRESSURE ON FONSEC. ACCORDINGLY, SCIOUNS HAS DISCUSSED MATTER WITH GALVEZ CRUZ WITH POINTS IN FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS BEING RESULTS OF CORDIAL CONVERSATION:

2. HE, GALVEZ CRUZ, SPOKE WITH CABRERA OF FONSEC AFTER COPE TELECON. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO CONVENE ALL GOM PARTICIPANTS ON WORKING GROUP IN DINNER SESSION AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY WHICH PRESUMABLY INEN WOULD HOST. GALVEZ CRUZ WILL SEE CABRERA AGAIN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, AT MEETING OF INEN ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AT WHICH TIME HE WILL ENDEAVOR FIRM UP DATE FOR SAID MEETING, SHOOTING FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 02475 202216Z

3. GALVEZ CRUZ GAVE EMBREP ASSURANCES THAT INEN AND CFE REPS ON WG ALL FAVOR RESUMPTION OF JOINT STUDY OF PROJECT -THAT IS, GALVEZ CRUZ, GRAEF FERNANDEZ, CARLOS VELEZ (INEN) AND JUAN EIBENSCHUTZ (CFE).

4. EMBREP RECALLED RECEIPT PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL PATRIMONY SECRETARY ALEJO, WHO ALSO CHAIRS INEN GOVERNING BOARD, TO EFFECT MEXICO HAS MADE DECISION CONCENTRATE ON NUCLEAR POWER (SEE MEXICO 2194) SAYING THAT MOMENT SEEMED PROPITIOUS FOR RENEWING JOINT EFFORT IN GEOGRAPHIC AREA CONSIDERED BY JOINT PROJECT. GALVEZ CRUZ CONCURRED WHOLE-HEARTEDLY, ADDING THAT, AS A MATTER OF FACT HE WOULD PRESENT A PAPER ON THE PROJECT AT THE FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN NUCLEAR CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN PARIS APRIL 20 NEXT. HE ADDED ALSO THAT HE HAD BEEN INTERVIEWED ON TV MONDAY MORNING MARCH 10 BY GUILLERMO OCHOA AS FOLLOWUP ON ALEJO STATEMENTS BEFORE ENGINEERS ON MARCH 9, SO MEXICO'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMS NOW RECEIVING MORE ATTENTION FROM BOTH PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONALS.

5. IN COURSE CONVERSATION, GALVEZ CRUZ ALSO GAVE OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION TO EFFECT THAT OUR OLD FRIEND ING. JUAN EIBENSCHUTZ WHO HAS BEEN SHUTTLLING BETWEEN CFE, THE PRESIDENT'S PLANNING STAFF AND OBLIVION FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, AND MOST RECENTLY HAS BEEN SERVING AS ADVISER TO CFE DG FARREL, HAS NOW BEEN NAMED MANAGER FOR CFE NUCLEO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT (GERENTE DE DESARROLLO NUCLEOELECTRICO).

6. AT RECENT INEN GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ALEJO ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT EIBENSCHUTZ WOULD SOON BE NAMED SECRETARY OF ENERGY COMMISSION, THAT INTERMINISTERIAL GROUP OF WHICH ALEJO ALSO SERVES AS CHAIRMAN, BUT HIS DESIGNATION APPARENTLY HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE.

7. COMMENT: HOPEFULLY PROJECT IS BACK ON TRACK, BUT EXPECTATIONS SHOULD NOT BE RAISED TOO HIGH PENDING OUTCOME OF PRESENT GAVEZ CRUZ EFFORT.

8. EMBASSY HAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT IF MEXICO HAS AN ENERGY CZAR, IT IS PRECISELY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL PATRIMONY SINCE CFE AND PEMEX (THE GOVERNMENT PETROLEUM UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 02475 202216Z

MONOPOLY) COME UNDER NATIONAL PATRIMONY AND SECRETARY (ALEJO) IS CHAIRMAN OF ENERGY COMMISSION AND CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF INEN. END FYI.
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